

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Original) A method of proliferating eukaryotic cells, comprising the step of introducing synthetic low density lipoprotein (sLDL) particles to a cell culture and allowing cells in the culture to proliferate.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the sLDL particles are peptide free and enable at least a 20% increase in cell number to occur in comparison to cells grown in the presence of foetal calf serum (FCS) or other serum-free lipid supplements.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the sLDL particles comprise a peptide and enable at least a 50% increase in cell number to occur in comparison to cells grown in the presence of foetal calf serum (FCS) or other serum-free lipid supplements.

4. (Original) A method of identifying an sLDL particle for use as a cell growth lipid supplement for a particular cell type, comprising the steps of:

- a) providing an initial cell culture containing cells of the particular cell type;
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- b) adding sLDL particles of defined composition and concentration to said culture medium;
- c) allowing the cells to proliferate for a period of time; and
- d) determining a level of proliferation of the cells.

5. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 4 wherein the cells are mammalian cells, ~~such as U937, NSO, CHO, fibroblasts, hybridoma cell, myeloma cells and cellular assemblies such as embryos or pancreatic cells.~~

6. (Currently Amended) A cell culture medium comprising sLDL particles ~~according to the present invention~~ which particles comprise cholesterol and/or cholesterol ester

wherein the total concentration of cholesterol and cholesterol ester is greater than 0.009 mg/ml of culture medium.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ cell culture medium according to claim 6 wherein the total cholesterol content is greater than 0.018 mg/ml.
8. (Original) Use of sLDL particles as a supplement to facilitate the growth of NSO cells.
9. (New) The method according to claim 5 wherein the mammalian cells are selected from the group consisting of U937, NSO, CHO, fibroblasts, hybridoma cell, myeloma cells and cellular assemblies.
10. (New) The method according to claim 9 wherein the cellular assemblies are embryos or pancreatic cells.